

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. **(Currently Amended)** A non-asbestos friction material made by molding and curing a composition comprising a fibrous base other than asbestos, a binder, a filler and an abrasive; wherein the abrasive includes zirconium silicate beads having a spherical shape and an average particle size of 15 to 500  $\mu\text{m}$ .

2. **(Cancelled)**

3. **(Original)** The non-asbestos friction material of claim 1, having a zirconium silicate bead content of 0.5 to 25 vol%, based on the overall composition.

4. **(Previously Presented)** The non-asbestos friction material of claim 1, wherein the fibrous base includes metal fibers.

5. **(Previously Presented)** The non-asbestos friction material of claim 1, wherein the fibrous base includes copper fibers.

6. **(Previously Presented)** The non-asbestos friction material of claim 1, wherein the average particle size of the zirconium silicate beads is at least 30  $\mu\text{m}$ .

7. **(Previously Presented)** The non-asbestos friction material of claim 1, wherein the average particle size of the zirconium silicate beads is at least 50  $\mu\text{m}$ .

8. (Previously Presented) The non-asbestos friction material of claim 1, wherein the average particle size of the zirconium silicate beads is not more than 300  $\mu\text{m}$ .

9. (Previously Presented) The non-asbestos friction material of claim 1, wherein the average particle size of the zirconium silicate beads is not more than 150  $\mu\text{m}$ .

10. (Previously Presented) The non-asbestos friction material of claim 3, wherein the zirconium silicate bead content is at least 3 vol%, based on the overall composition.

11. (Previously Presented) The non-asbestos friction material of claim 3, wherein the zirconium silicate bead content is not more than 15 vol%, based on the overall composition.

12. (Previously Presented) The non-asbestos friction material of claim 3, wherein the zirconium silicate bead content is not more than 8 vol%, based on the overall composition.